

Gov't asks court to outlaw Abu as terrorist group

THE PHILIPPINE government has asked the Manila Regional Trial Court to outlaw the Abu Sayyaf as a terrorist group and blacklist its members, in a move that would allow the authorities to more readily freeze the heads' bank assets and obtain clearance to tap their phone conversations.

News of the government move came as the military and police stepped up security in urban centers, including Manila, to prevent any bombings by the head group.

90P/AMIS 411

ACROSS / A15

Scientists find threatened dolphin species in Negros



Tuesday, September 7, 2010

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METRO / A19

P3.6-M debt sparks suit vs actor, magazine

Ramon 'RJ' Jacinto: The Ventures changed my life

Ombudsman to probe housing mess in Pampanga

By Lella B. Salaverria and Cynthia D. Balana

THE OFFICE of the Ombudsman has stepped into the controversy over irregularities in a housing project in Pampanga whose developer received some P7 billion from the Pag-ibig Fund.

Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez yesterday formed a panel to investigate the irregularities surrounding the Pag-ibig loans for the housing project of Globe Asia Pacific Realty Holdings Corp.

90P/OPSM 41

'PNP has no nego team'



SUPP. Orlando Yebra, who served as hostage negotiator, was charged to explain police procedures in crisis situations during Monday's hearing of the investigating panel led by Junior Secretary Lella de Lina. Graciano Mendales (inset) was afraid for his life.

No TV, radio monitors at command post—Yebra

By Nikko Dixon and Marian Ramos

THE CHIEF negotiator in the Aug. 23 hostage fiasco yesterday said that the Philippine National Police had no official negotiating team and that the slaughter of eight Hong Kong tourists shamed the rescue operation was a "failure."

"The negotiating team does not really exist, until now officially," Supp. Orlando Yebra told the law-making committee formed by President Aquino to look into the fiasco that prompted global condemnation of his administration for negligence.

On the third day of marathon hearings by the five-member panel headed by Justice Secretary Lella de Lina, Yebra testified that the PNP did not have a representative member and only conducted discussions on what to do during hostage situations.

He said that during the crisis at Rimal Park, Chief Supp. Leonardo Santiago, head of the National Capital Region Police Office, dispatched a three-man team to assist him.

Yebra, chief of the Manila Police District office who attended court in hostage situations in Australia and the United States, said his informal team practically did not have any role.

DNM 41



PUNO: Unquestioned loyalty

Puno: I'll take bullet for P-Noy

By Alkain Papa

UNDERSTANDINGLY, Sen. R. Puno of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) says he will never turn his back on President Aquino, not in the hostage-taking tragedy that has tainted his presidency.

"I am willing to take a bullet for him. I never leave anyone," Puno told the lawmakers. "We have been friends for so long. Why should I abandon him now of all times?"

Puno is one of the highest administration officials mentioned in the Aug. 23 bloodbath in which 10 hostages were killed, including the slain Hong Kong tourists.

The fallout from the slaughter of eight Hong Kong tourists on the last night by a determined police inspector

PUNO 41

GMA asked to testify in NBN-ZTE case

By Lella B. Salaverria

THIS TIME, former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is being asked to talk about Ramon Neri, former National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) chief, in connection with the controversial \$329-million National Broadband Network (NBN) deal with China's ZTE Corp.

Arroyo, now a Pampanga representative, and her husband, Jose Miguel Arroyo, are witnesses whose prosecution intends to present at Neri's trial, acting Deputy Special Prosecutor John Tanada yesterday told the Sandiganbayan 13th division.

Neri was charged with violation of the anti-graft law for conferring with three Commission on Elections Chair

Benjamin Abalos Jr. on the NBN project, although the latter was not supposed to be involved with it, and for steering with ZTE officials when the project was under assessment.

At a Senate hearing in September 2007, Neri said Abalos offered him P200 million while they were riding a golf cart, confirming reports that the

DNM 41



ROBREDO has a good laugh as he hears on Monday.

Under fire, Palace says Robredo only 'acting'

By Gil C. Cabanatuan Jr., TJ Burgos and Christine G. Arendele

CALLS for heads to roll in the tangled housing issue have prompted a Manila talking environment that embittered Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo is serving only in an "acting" capacity and therefore not subject to confirma-

tion of Congress.

Three others named as acting Cabinet secretaries along with Robredo were Rosalinda Balboa for Labor and Ramon Paje for environment, presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacorda said in a text message to Pulse reporters yesterday.

"No need for confirmation," Lacorda said.

da said.

Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile said that President Aquino could keep the "acting" job as members of his official family list as long as he wanted, even up to the end of his term.

"You cannot question the prerogative of the President when it concerns his appointments as long as the person

is qualified according to the Constitution," Enrile said.

The move means that the President has not made an appointment to the post and that the temporary appointment must go through the Commission on Appointments (CA), Enrile added.

Sen. Francis Tangkay, who earlier

UNDEB 41

27-inch man is world's shortest



27-INCH BOY Eduardo Nino Hernandez, 24, walks outside his home for a ride to a store where he works as a performer in Bogota, Colombia.

BOGOTA, Colombia—Edward Nino Hernandez is in many ways a typical 24-year-old Colombian male. He loves to dance reggaeton, dreams of making a career out of being a comedian—and wants to see the world.

Tap on his list of people he would like to meet are Jackie Chan, Sylvester Stallone and former Colombian President Alvaro Uribe.

What sets Nino apart is his size. He is slightly taller than a piece



Fat bonuses to be frozen for 2 months

By Christine G. Arendele and Lella B. Salaverria

AN EXECUTIVE order that President Aquino is expected to issue this week will suspend for two months the granting of allowances and bonuses to officials and employees of government-owned and -controlled corporations (GOCCs) and of government financial institutions (GFIs), Budget Secretary Florencio Abad said yesterday.

Abad said the suspension of the bonuses and perks would be done while lawmakers were studying how to reform the

ENR 40/BNP 41

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Sept. 24 - PARKMALL MANDALAY CITY

Loyal GMA ally replaced as head of Mindanao development body

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—Mindanao Development Authority (MindaDev) Chair Jesus Briones leaves his post after a five-year tenure in the position. Briones' replacement by President Aquino.

Briones said while he has a fixed six-year term under the law creating MindaDev, he would like to be given a free hand in picking the head of the agency.

Web search for bride ends in Brit's slay

A BRITON who went to the Philippines to propose marriage to a woman he met in an Internet chat room, was killed by her jealous lover on Friday, police said.

John Lerrie McDonald, 30, was killed by a woman he met in an Internet chat room, was killed by her jealous lover on Friday, police said.

McDonald was found in a park in Los Angeles, where he was on his last night in his life. He was found in a park in Los Angeles, where he was on his last night in his life.

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Ballsy: P-Noy humble enough to take blame for hostage bloodbath

By Hector Burgeles
Inquirer Staff

CARBON. SIBOL—President Aquino's close advisers to the defense of his brother could criticize of Mr. Aquino's handling of the Aug. 23 Manila hostage bloodbath.

Ballsy Aquino Cruz said the people shouldn't be put down today because of a single day of the bloodbath.

"All of us, just like every Filipino, and just have been so stressed, are affected. But we have to move on," Cruz said, rejecting reports between Manila when asked how the Aug. 23 bloodbath has affected the Aquino family.

Cruz, who was born to rain

over medicines and logging equipment for the campaign against drugs, said the government is already investigating the bloodbath that led to the deaths of eight Hong Kong tourists and their captives, detained policemen Rolando Mendoza.

"We continue to pray that things will improve not only in our country but in the world and that people may be able to understand that the President is doing the best he can," said the Aquino-Cruz clan. "But, of course, he is not perfect and he himself has been really humble from the start saying that he can't do it alone. He needs everybody's help," Cruz said.

His Aquino earlier said he was taking "full responsibility" for the "terrible experience and even operation that led to the deaths of the Hong Kong tourists."

"It's really difficult and it's very sad but we just have to think that the Lord has his own plan for this and as long as we keep our faith and will we believe that we continue to do things even harder every day that things will improve," she said.

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JUDICIARY WOES

4,000 cases per court in

By TJ Bergman

THE STRAIN for justice in the Philippines could lead to public markets—in a court that sits on top of one.

A Supreme Court official, defending the P27-billion proposed judiciary budget for next year, said the real state of Philippine courts is one of the biggest factors for the slow grind of justice in the country.

Justice Minister, Supreme Court administrator, said as a function of the thousands of pre-arrested cases that the number of cases continues to pile up every year because of lack of courts.

At the end of last year, he said at least 400 cases are pending at 1,200 regional and municipal trial courts nationwide. In many cases, he added, courts handle 4,000 cases at a time when the acceptable ratio should be just 500 cases per court.

Squatter courts

"We also have court houses on top of police stations and supermarkets, which to my view is not building a regular court house," he told the committee chaired by Senate Rep. Joseph Emilio Biazon.

This elicited remarks from other congressmen.

"With the data being presented here, then we can't find a solution to the existing, justice delayed is justice denied," said Rep. Immanuel Escudero (D).

Cagayan de Oro Rep. Rufus Rodriguez called attention to the "collapsing" Hall of Justice building in his province, saying recent rains forced the use of yards behind the building as courts to expedite existing cases.

Marquez agreed with Rodriguez that the Hall of Justice building in Cagayan de Oro badly needed renovation.

Stashed budget

"The walls of the Cagayan de Oro Hall of Justice are creaking up because of the rustiness," said Rodriguez. At least P100 million was needed to repair it.

The judiciary is asking for a P27-billion budget next year, but the Department of Budget and Management slashed the amount to P1.6 billion.

Number of bar examinees 20% fewer this year

By Marlon Ramos

THE NUMBER of law graduates who took this year's bar examinations is 20 percent lower than last year's, the decline attributed to what a Supreme Court official said was the belief that next year's exams would be easier.

Justice Minister, Supreme Court administrator, said plans are being discussed to introduce multiple-choice questions in next year's bar exams.

"Maybe they think they would have a better chance of passing if they take it next year because of the multiple-choice questions," Marquez said in a mobile phone interview.

If approved by the high court, he said 60 percent of the exams would be composed of objective questions.

The plan, he said, was meant to test the graduates' knowledge of the laws which, he said, was the core of the bar exams.

Supreme Court associate justice Roberto Abad, who will serve as chair of next year's bar exam, had expressed support for the plan, Marquez said.

"With the current exam process, one could get points if you write well in English or if your penmanship is good," said Marquez.

"In objective-type tests, it's either you know the answer or not because the answers should be precise," he said. "But the Supreme Court will have an opinion on this. There will be deliberations on this."

Even candidates or not, the atmosphere in many sites on Sunday was the same as previous ones.

Although the Supreme Court banned rowdy events and send-off ceremonies, this did not prevent well-wishers from filling the rooms.

Politicians, schools and other groups of well-wishers were cheering for their graduates.

Trains and bus lines jammed in many cities.

Marquez said 1,000 graduates applied for permission to take this year's bar exams. Seven were rejected and 70 withdrew at the last minute.



A BAR EXAMINEE waves to supporters before entering the compound of the La Salle University, one of the sites of this year's bar exams.

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Pilot's judgment jeopardized life-extending operation

MANILA, Aug. 28. In a rare medical event at the National Disaster and Traumatology Institute (NDTI), a man believed to be dead a Minute before the arrival of a helicopter landed at the institute's helipad, Cebu Province, Province 8, Lungsod. The victim, a man, was brought to the helipad by a helicopter pilot, who was a member of the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC).

Despite the explanation, a person close to the helicopter pilot, who was a member of the MRC, said that the pilot's judgment was jeopardized by the helicopter pilot's own actions.

The helicopter pilot, who was a member of the MRC, said that the pilot's judgment was jeopardized by the helicopter pilot's own actions.

'Dead of blood' coming from the injured victim, which could possibly be a sign of a heart attack.

The victim was taken to the hospital, where he was treated for a heart attack. The helicopter pilot, who was a member of the MRC, said that the pilot's judgment was jeopardized by the helicopter pilot's own actions.

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A PDU and another demonstration were protesting for the urgent release of Gutierrez-Heredia from the Bataan.

Case vs Gutierrez not based on ties with Arroyos

It was unexpected to read a news article in "The Star" last night about the case of Gutierrez-Heredia vs. Arroyos.

The article stated that the case was based on the fact that Gutierrez-Heredia was a close friend of the late President Arroyos.

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the victim of the country's last major case of corruption and human rights violations.

Gutierrez-Heredia's case is significant in that it is the first case of its kind in the Philippines.

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TERROR GROUP Police ordered his photo provided by the Philippine National Police, at Quinsolondo. Abu Sayyaf leaders gather around a camp fire as they track their road in a jungle camp in Jolo.

3 blasts rock Central Mindanao

COTABATO CITY—Three explosions rocked Cotabato City and Sultan Kudarat over the weekend, but police ruled out any link between the blasts and the killing of three Abu Sayyaf bandits in Jolo.

Two of the explosions occurred in this city. One site was near the intersection of the 22nd and 23rd streets, and the other was near the intersection of the 22nd and 23rd streets.

As a result, the explosion in Cotabato City was not linked to the Abu Sayyaf group, which is active in the region.

An improvised explosive device (IED) exploded on a road in Cotabato City on Saturday night. The IED was left near the gate of the Sultan Kudarat National High School.

Police said the blast was not linked to the Abu Sayyaf group, which is active in the region.

The Sunday evening explosion in Cotabato City was not linked to the Abu Sayyaf group, which is active in the region.

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Gov't asks court to outlaw Abu Sayyaf group

By [Name]

Efforts to end the proliferation of such insurrectionist attacks on police commandos last weekend started a bid to outlaw the Abu Sayyaf group in Cotabato City.

Thereafter, the explosion rocked Cotabato City and an adjacent town early yesterday and late weekend but police said there had nothing to do with the Abu Sayyaf. The area was built in the 1960s, and the explosion was caused by a natural gas leak.

Legal opinion

The Department of Justice formally sought to outlaw the Abu Sayyaf in a petition filed Monday with the trial court in Cotabato City.

The justice department also sought to outlaw more than 200 members of the Abu Sayyaf, which has an estimated 400 members.

Currently, members of the Abu Sayyaf are treated as criminals.

If approved by the Supreme Court, the justice would outlaw the Abu Sayyaf and allow authorities to arrest bandits more rapidly and limit their travel.

Proponents also said that the Abu Sayyaf would be able to recruit more personnel faster to maintain phone conversations and look into bank accounts of bandits' relatives.

It would also be a new legal weapon against the group, which has survived years of US-backed offensives, according to Philippine President Benigno Aquino III.

"This will help simplify the group," Aquino said.

Innocent lives

The petition cited 28 major bombings and atrocities allegedly committed by the Abu Sayyaf, including a 2004 attack that killed 10 people, and the kidnapping of dozens of mostly European tourists and Chinese Americans in early 2006.

The Abu Sayyaf is described as a group that is active in the region, and its members are treated as criminals.

law to more swiftly prosecute them," according to the justice department.

Founded in 1991, the Abu Sayyaf has staged numerous attacks with help from Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network, the justice department said.

The United States has listed the Abu Sayyaf as a terrorist group and designated hundreds of groups to the list.

Vital installations

The chief of the Philippine National Police, General Romeo B. Manzano, ordered the tightening of security to vital installations in Manila.

There is a threat to the lives of the police and other officials, according to the justice department.

The Abu Sayyaf is described as a group that is active in the region, and its members are treated as criminals.

MacGillivray said the possibility that real estate could reach the capital, Manila, said: "The real estate market is not as strong as it was in the past."

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The Abu Sayyaf is described as a group that is active in the region, and its members are treated as criminals.

Fat bonuses to be frozen for 2 months

By [Name]

fat pay allowances and other perks of top officials of GOCCs and GPs.

"The suspension of these perks is not recognition of the performance of the officials," said the President.

SSS, PHHSS

The House last week passed a resolution asking the suspension of perks for GOCCs

and GPs following hearings during which their officials were enjoying very generous bonuses.

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is being a growing budget deficit.

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GOCCs and GPs if election campaigns are involved, Aquino said.

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"They were not authorized to receive their perks," Aquino said.

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Puno: I'll take bullet for P-Noy

By [Name]

working environment has prompted local authorities to order the closure of the Puno.

Puno, 54, is an agricultural extension officer of the Department of Agriculture.

No qualification

On a claim that Puno does not have any qualifications to head the Puno, local authorities have ordered the closure of the Puno.

In 1998, Puno was appointed as the Puno, but he was not qualified to head the Puno.

Group (PNC) in Puno province.

Shooting incident

Recent the president has been shot in the chest, and Puno has been ordered to close the Puno.

In 1998, Puno was appointed as the Puno, but he was not qualified to head the Puno.

In 1998, Puno was appointed as the Puno, but he was not qualified to head the Puno.



PRESIDENTIAL Puno presidential candidate Benigno Aquino III is seen with his family at a campaign event in Puno.

from 2007 to 2009 and later in the special oversight committee on economic development from 2009 until July 4, 2010.

The work in the Puno's economic development committee was "outstanding and working with the Puno's economic development committee."

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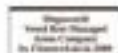
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Haven of healthy living

By Neil Celis

THE MOST impressive thing about Fort Bonifacio Global City is not its skyscrapers and shopping malls, but that it represents a healthy lifestyle for urban dwellers. Just take a look at the treatment and facilities of fitness and Fort Bonifacio High Street, with their lush greenery and open-air shopping coupled with wide pavements and walkways and a beautiful stretch of greenery.

The whole High Street is dotted with plants and trees. It's the reason why it's a good place where the kids can play High Street also has many parks. Working out is no longer a hassle inside the air-conditioned walls of the gym or at home, with joggers and walkers of all ages enjoying the Fort's fresh outdoors. Fresh air is just one of the reasons why the Fort is a healthy haven for its residents.

Joggers' paradise
 At around 4 p.m., when the sun is high, one can see joggers enjoying in their respective lanes.



ing places, sometimes at GMR the nearest landmark to locate, at the entrance of High Street.

Fortbonifacio joggers, who are mostly middle-aged, are often seen outside KIDS, showing off their state-of-the-art, along with old folks taking leisurely walks on the paved sidewalks.

But Jimmy Taniguchi, 27, a marketing and HR consultant who lives

and works near The Fort, has been a jogging fan for years. He's been a member of the Fort Bonifacio Joggers' Club since 2005, when it was first formed.

An officer pointing up, Taniguchi is into basketball and fitness, too. She often looks forward to seeing regularly joggers in the Fort's High Street.

The second jogging lane for

The Fort's park-like atmosphere, fresh air and varied dining options lure joggers, foodies, pet lovers, leisure walkers

ATWENT is just when the sun is about to set, joggers converge at Bonifacio High Street.

GIMBELD BY PHILIP K. DICK

Panel 1: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 2: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 3: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 4: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"

A. UPPH BY PHILIP K. DICK

Panel 1: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 2: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 3: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 4: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"

FUGIO BARRY BY PHILIP K. DICK

Panel 1: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 2: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 3: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 4: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"

ONE TRICK BY PHILIP K. DICK

Panel 1: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 2: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 3: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 4: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"

LOVE ME BY PHILIP K. DICK

Panel 1: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 2: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 3: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 4: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"

JOHN BOND BY PHILIP K. DICK

Panel 1: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 2: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
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DRINK COMEDY BY PHILIP K. DICK

Panel 1: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 2: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
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BABY BLUES BY PHILIP K. DICK

Panel 1: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
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WALDO BY PHILIP K. DICK

Panel 1: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
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SEN BY PHILIP K. DICK

Panel 1: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
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WEDDING BY PHILIP K. DICK

Panel 1: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
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Panel 4: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"

WARRIOR LADDER BY PHILIP K. DICK

Panel 1: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 2: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 3: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"
Panel 4: "HONK IT, HONK IT!"

CONCEPTS SU BOKU

HOW TO PLAY SU BOKU

Fill the grid with numbers 1-9. Numbers can only be placed in a cell if they do not create a row or column with two identical numbers. The goal is to fill the grid with numbers so that no row or column contains two identical numbers.

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